

Hale

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A NEW

M E T H O D

O F

Preventing and Curing

T H E

M A D N E S S

C A U S E D B Y T H E

Bite of a mad Dog.

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Laid before the *Royal Society*, in *February* last, 1741.

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By R. J A M E S, M. D.

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L O N D O N:

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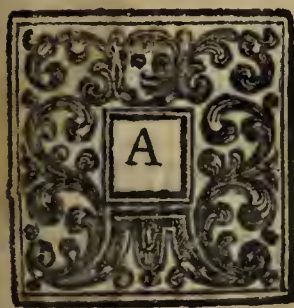
T O

Sir HANS SLOANE Bart. President,

A N D T H E

Fellows of the ROYAL SOCIETY.

GENTLEMEN,



S any Attempt to improve Medicine, and to discover a certain Remedy for one of the most terrible Distempers human Nature is subject to, and which has hitherto generally proved invincible, cannot fail of being agreeable to a Society, that has been indefatigable in the Pursuit of natural Knowledge, I take the Liberty of laying before you the Reasons which I have to hope, that *Mercury* in any Form is not only an effectual Preservative against the ill Consequences of a Bite from a mad Dog, but also a Cure

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for



for them, even when, through Neglect, the *Hydrophobia* is suffered to come on.

In *June* 1735, I delivered a Memorial to Sir *Hans Sloane*, containing some Experiments that had been made with *Turpeth Mineral*, upon People bit by mad Dogs ; and a little before Doctor *Boerhaave's* Death, I communicated to him the same Cases with some Additions, in a Letter which it may not be improper to lay before you.

*Viro Arte & Humanitate insigni* HERMANNO BOERHAAVE,  
Robertus James, S. P. D.

**T**IBI morbos hactenus invictos profligando artifque Medicæ fines latius promovendo humanum genus quotidie demerenti rem haud ingratham facturum videor, vir clarissime, si quibus remediis, quaque curandi methodo, animalia quædam aquæ metu jam laborantia, quædam mox laboratura, ad sanitatem reducta sint, paucis enarravero.

Anno 1732, mense Februario, apud quendam venationis studiosissimum forte otiabar : Canes rabies invaserat, quæ usque adeo sæviebat, ut ex agmine quod numerosum aluit, triginta jam desiderarentur, demersi licet aquis marinis, sumptoque stanno cum mithridatio, cæterisque medicamentis quæ inani specificorum nomine plus nimio nostri decantata. Duos tunc temporis rabiosos mihi ostendit, quibus duos jam vel tres dies setæ in dorso arrectæ steterant, caudæ intortæ, vox latrantium raucedine quadam vitiata,



vitata, multa fauces spuma fluebant, ab esca, præsertim liquida, abhorrebant, et quicquid se objecit morfu petentes summum morbi gradum pati videbantur. Domino luem tam funestam deploranti auctor eram, ut quid valeret *Turpethum Minerale* experiretur: ille vero, spe quam injeceram permotus, Gr. 12. eadem vespera utriq; exhibuit quo Pharmaco et alvus leniter mota et ventriculus; vespera insequenti Gr. 24. utriq; ingestis Ptyalismus auctus est. Tertio vero die occidente, uterque Gr. 48. fumere coactus, & Ptyalismo, & Vomitione & Purgatione acriter pertentatus est, quibus post horas aliquot adeo debellata morbi crudelitas, ut lac tepidum uterque sponte biberet. Quarta demum nocte adveniente alteri Gr. 24. dedit, alterum præteriit; canis accepto Pharmaco humi procubuit, salivam uberrime perfundens, dirisque cruciatibus agitatus Ptyalismum nimis temere excitatum testantibus; evasis tamen et morbi et remedii periculis, tandem valuit. Alterum pestis nondum penitus subacta, redintegratio aggressa est viribus, et extinxit.

Canes alios duos eadem patientes, idem remedium feliciter expedivit. Cæteris canibus, ne latius serperet contagio, prima vice, *Turp. Min.* Gr. 7. secunda Gr. 12. exhibuit. Eadem methodo per duos vel tres Menses sub ortum novæ plenæque Lunæ usus est, ne uno quidem cane ab eo tempore per Rabiem erepto.

Hæc ubi percrebuerant experimenta, quicquid a cane rabioso vulneratum est, hoc malo venienti Pharmacum opposuimus, nec ex animalibus fere bis centum quorum  
salus



salus huic Medicamento credita est, unum fefellit eventus.

Qua via me ad hanc curationis methodum ratio deduxerit, si modo tanti sit paucis accipe. Mihi spumam quæ animalibus cujuscunque generis aquam metuentibus perpetuo nascitur consideranti, natura (seu quocunq; alio nomine causam, quæ quod humano nocet corpori expellere satagit, appellare libeat) crisin moliri visa est, vinci tamen, et quoniam sal corrosivum quod Fauces, Gulam, Oesophagum, ipsumq; Ventriculum inflammans, Gangrænam pene tandem inducit, saliva in qua innatat, non satis diluatur, morbo impar succumbere, felicius forsan bellum gessura, si, arte suppetias ferente, Lympha copiosior provocaretur, qua venenum dispersum & tenuatum tuto facileq; posset effluere.

Historia, quæ sequitur, an hanc meam pessundet Hypothesin, tu judicabis, ego de conjecturis parum sollicitus morbum hunc gravissimum, saltem ubi primum gradum non excesserit, Mercurio, siue salivam moveat, siue non moveat, cedere experientia compertum habeo.

Juvenis annos natus plus minus octodecim, aliquot post mensibus quam hoc Pharmacum in canibus expertus eram, a cane peregrino, quem ne somnio quidem rabiosum putavit, in manu vulneratus est, aridamq; in vulnere crustam, parum incommodi sentiens, per sex dies gerebat; jam vero insolita mœstitia invadere, jam tremores corrumpere, somnusq; quo minimo fruebatur, crebris tendinum subsultibus perturbari. Hac animi corporisq; ægritudine dum per tres dies angeretur, canes quos in pago plurimos eodem



eodem tempore idem canis momorderat, rabiosi facti, tanta malorum seges a quo semine proveniret satis commonstrârunt. Juvenis se in extremo periculo versari non ignarus ad pharmacopolam cui mea experimenta retuleram, confugit. Pharmacopola unum e Bol. seq. eadem nocte deglutiendum dedit.

& Turp. Min. Gr. xij.

Lap. Contr. 3j.

Theriac. Adrom. q. f. F. Bol. No. 3.

Ea nocte paulum dormivit, & sudavit; die insequenti duas sedes habuit quales a pharmacis purgantibus fieri solent, morbo paulatim mitescente: alium e bolis iisdem se cubitum recepturus sumpsit, unde nocte longior somnus, largior sudor, die duæ sedes solutiores, omniaque symptomata leviora. Bolo tertio, cum nox adveniret, sumpto, placidæ dormivit in sudores copiosos effusus, mane sanus, vegetusque surrexit; in frigidam quotidie per dies quatuordecim descendit, jamque & mente integra & corpore perfruitur.

In hac historia observandum occurrit crustam, quam in manu, sicut dictum est, aridam habuit, post medecinam tertio sumptam escaræ instar decidisse, vulnusque pure probe cocto per dies aliquot manasse, deinde communi digestivo sanatum.

En tibi experimenta quæcumque, postquam virus sævire cœperat, agere contigit: restat ut una atque altera historia, quibus plures nullo negotio possem adjicere, commonstrem quanta vi hoc remedium virus humano generi inimicissimum sævire prohibeat.



Puer annos habens sedecim, una & canis, a vulpecula rabiosa demorfi sunt. Puer Turpeth. Min. cum Camphora fumens, anno jam integro exeunte, valet; canem intra diem decimum quartum rabies interfecit.

Puellæ annos quatuordecim natæ tertio abhinc anno fura a cane rabioso adeo lacerata est, ut chirurgus sedula naven-da esset opera ne ex sævitia simplici vulneris gangrena nasceretur. Canes ingenti numero ab eodem cane hora fere eadem morsum tulerant; ei potenti hoc pharmaco vomitus ciebatur, quod postea tertia ante novilunium, ipsaque novilunii die factum, eadem etiam methodo a plenilunio cautum est; prospera jam nunc utitur valetudine puella, canibus ad unum omnibus rabie mortuis.

Hæc scribenti novum subnascitur exemplum, ingenti cani venatico rabiosissimo Turp. Min. Gr. 14. summo baculo imposta in ventriculum adacta sunt, re feliciter adeo cedente ut eum crastino die viderim vultu placido tranquilloque escis objectis sese saturantem.

De historiis his experimentisque, quæ summa fide conscripsi, tuum, vir eruditissime, esto iudicium, sed candidum benevolumque: si quid aut dubium aut obscurum putaveris, id me vel confirmare vel illustrare paratissimum invenies. Vale.



*To Doctor BOERHAAVE.*

**I** Flatter myself that you, who are continually endeavouring to improve Medicine by finding out Methods of Cure for Distempers hitherto invincible, will be pleased with an Account of the Means by which I have saved the Lives of some Animals that had the Hydrophobia upon them, and of others that probably would very soon have fallen into it.

In *February* 1732, I happened to visit a Gentleman very fond of Hunting: A Madness at that Time raged in his Kennel, by which he had lost at least 30 Hounds, after they had been dipped in the Sea, and had taken the Pewter Medicine, with many others that are too often trusted to as Specificks. He shewed me two that were then mad. For the two or three preceding Days their Hair had stood erect like Bristles; they carried their Tails as it were twisted; they barked with a Kind of Hoarseness; their Mouths discharged a great Deal of Froth; they refused all Sorts of Food, especially Fluids, and bit at every Thing that came near them, and on every Occasion shewed all the Signs of the highest Degree of Madness.

I advised the Gentleman to try what Effect the Turpeth Mineral would have upon them; upon which he gave each Hound twelve Grains of that Medicine in the Evening, which vomited and purged them gently. The next Evening he



he gave twenty four Grains more to each Hound, by which the Discharge from the Mouth was much increased. The next Evening he gave each forty eight Grains, which vomited, purged, and salivated them very much; but in a few Hours each Hound was so far recovered as to lap warm Milk. Twenty four Hours after this Dose one of the Dogs had twenty four Grains more given him, the other none. The Dog that took this last Dose salivated extremely, lay upon the Ground in great Agonies, and had all the Symptoms of a Ptyalism raised too hastily; but got through it and recovered; the other relapsed and died.

This Method was afterwards tried upon two Dogs more under the same Circumstances with Success.

To the Rest of the Pack, by Way of Prevention, he gave seven Grains each for the first Dose, twelve for the second Dose at twenty fours Hours Distance, and repeated it every Day for some little Time, and again at each Full and New Moon for two or three Months, and lost not one Hound afterwards.

This Success encouraged me and my Friends to give Turpeth Mineral to as many Dogs, and other Animals that had been bit by mad Dogs, as we could meet with; and it has succeeded so well, that not one Animal out of some hundreds that took it, has gone mad.

The Reasons which induced me to try the Effects of Mercury in this Distemper were these. When I considered the Foam which is discharged in large Quantities from the Mouths of Animals labouring under an Hydrophobia, which  
Foam



Foam which seems to be replete with the Poison, it appeared to methat Nature,(or whatever it is which endeavours to expel out of the Body what is offensive to the Animal Oeconomy,)was attempting a Crisis by the Salivary Glands, but failed of that salutary End, because the extreamly corrosive Salts inflaming the Fauces, Oesophagus, and Stomach, produced a Gangrene before it could be accomplished. It seemed therefore reasonable to believe that this Poison might pass off without Mischief, provided it was diluted with a greater Quantity of Saliva, which Mercury seldom fails to throw upon the Glands of the Fauces, &c.

I shall be in no Concern whether you think the following History overturns this Hypothesis; being however convinced by Experience, that Mercury, whether it salivates or not, will certainly cure this terrible Distemper.

A young Man about eighteen, some few Months after I had made these Experiments on Dogs, was bit in the Hand by a strange Dog which he never suspected to be mad. The Wound was covered by a dry Scab, which was no great Inconvenience to him. Some few Days after he began to be very melancholy and dejected, had Tremors frequently, and but little Sleep, and that disturbed frequently by convulsive Twitchings of the Tendons. About the Sixth Day several Dogs that had been bit in the Village at the same Time by the same Dog ran mad, and shewed him plainly the Cause of all his Disorders. Upon this he applied to a neighbouring Apothecary to whom I had re-

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lated



lated my Experiments, who vomited him with Vin. Benedict. ʒij and then gave him as follows viz.  $\mathcal{R}$  Turpeth. Min.gr. xii. Lap. Contrayerv. ʒj. Ther. Androm. q.s. F. Bol. ʒ.

He took one of these Bolusses at Night, drinking after it four Spoonfuls of a Julep. That Night he slept better, and sweat pretty much. The next Day he had two loose Stools, and found himself better. The next Night he took another Bolus: He slept more, and his Sweats were more copious. The next Day he had again two loose Stools; and upon this all the Symptoms were much abated. The third Night he took another Bolus as before: He slept all Night very quietly, and sweat very profusely; in the Morning he found himself very easy. He then made Use of the Cold Bath for some Time, and perfectly recovered.

It's observable that after taking these three Bolusses, the Scab on his Hand dropped off like an Eschar; the Wound ran a thick digested Matter, and easily healed.

These are all the Experiments I have had an Opportunity of making, after the Poison had shewn itself by its Effects. It remains that I give you a few Instances of the Success of Mercury as a Preservative.

A Boy about seventeen, and a Dog, were bit at the same Hour by a mad Fox, which last had some Time before been bit by a mad Dog. The Boy for some little Time took Turpeth Mineral and Camphire as an Alterative, and remains well. The Dog died mad in ten Days.

A Girl about fourteen had the Calf of her Leg so torn by the Bite of a mad Dog, that the Surgeon with Difficulty prevented



prevented a Mortification. A great many Dogs were bit at the same Time by the same Dog. She took a Vomit of Turpeth Mineral, which was repeated three Days before the next New Moon, also the very Day of the New Moon. The Girl is perfectly well, and all the Dogs ran mad.

Whilst I am writing this, another Instance occurs which confirms the Efficacy of Mercury. A very large Hound that had been bit by a mad Dog ran raving mad. Fourteen Grains of the Turpeth, made up with Butter, were thrust down his Throat by means of a thin hazel Stick. The next Day I saw him eat heartily, and he then seemed to have no Disorder.\*

I don't doubt, Sir, but you will judge of these Histories and Experiments, with that Candour and Benevolence which constitutes the most valuable Part of your Character. I shall at all Times be ready to clear any Thing relating to them, that may seem dubious or obscure,

*I am, Sir, &c.*

R. JAMES.

As these Facts are too important to be left depending entirely upon my own Credit, it may not be improper to publish the following Letters, now lying before me, of which the Gentlemen who wrote them will, at any Time, be ready to attest the Truth.

\* This Case was very remarkable. On Monday he went mad; on Tuesday I saw him eat; the Turpeth was repeated that Day, and the next. On Thursday he was unchained, and on Friday he went a hunting.

*Dear*



*Hints, Sunday Noon, May 25th 1736.*

*Dear Sir,*

**I** AM forry you had not the Account I promised you sooner, which was entirely owing to a Multitude of Company, and not to any Disrespect. The Quantity I gave the Hound that was mad and recovered, was first, 12 Grains of the Turpeth Mineral, resting 24 Hours: The Second Dose, was 24 Grains: The third Dose was 48 Grains repeated at the same Distance of Time as before.

The \*Dog that died, was lost, I apprehend, for want of the same Quantity that was given to that which recovered; having only the Quantity of 12 Grains for the first Dose,† 24 for the second, and 24 for the third; all at the Distance of 24 Hours from each other.

The Dogs that were not actually mad, had first 7 Grains; for the second Dose 12, and a Repetition of 12 given every other Day; and the same Quantity was given the two or three succeeding Fulls and Changes of the Moon.

*I am, dear Sir,*

*Your most Humble Servant,*

J. FLOYER.

\* The Dogs Mr. Floyer mentions were large Fox-Hounds.

† The Account of the Quantities of the Turpeth given the Dogs that were mad, as related in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and in the Letter to Dr. Boerhaave, differs from those mentioned in Mr. Floyer's Letter: I remember that I took the Account from him a few Days after the Medicine had been given the Dogs; but as Mr. Floyer is positive as to the Quantities, it is likely I made some Mistake.

There are some other Errors in the Letter to Dr. Boerhaave, but none very important.

SIR,



Burton, May 10th, 1735.

SIR,

I HAVE only two Experiments to give you of Turpeth Mineral on human Bodies. The first was on a Girl near 2 Years ago, aged about 13 or 14 Years. I gave her a Dose immediately, which vomited 5 or 6 Times, and gave a few gentle Stools. Afterwards, at three Days before the next Change of the Moon, I repeated the same Medicine, and likewise gave another Dose upon the very Day of the Moon's Changing. I observed the same Method with her at the next Full Moon. The other was a Boy about ten Year's old last *November*, who had four Holes bit in the Calf of his Leg. I observed the same Method with him, but was obliged to dress the Wound with Digestives; laying a Cataplasm of Mithridate, upon it: I have given the same Medicine to 30 Dogs at least, none of which ran mad, when other Dogs bit at the same Time died. This is all I have Time to write at present, being in a great Hurry,

*I am your most obedient,*

*humble Servant,*

THO. TOUNDROW.

The Case of the Boy, mentioned in this Letter, is related in the Philosophical Transactions, but omitted in the Letter to Dr. *Boerhaave*.

E

Sir,



Burton, May 21, 1735.

S I R,

I WAS prevented answering your last Letter by a Call out of Town ; so gave Directions to *Will. Cotton* to inform you of the Names of the Persons upon whom the Experiments were made, and the Places of their Abode. I cannot recollect that I ever gave the Turpeth to any Quadrupedes, but Dogs. A Person once applied to me about a Horse, but I find the Medicine was not given. We have had lately some Dogs bit. I have heard of nine, three of which were treated after the Method mentioned in my last, all of which remain well. Three of the other Dogs ran away mad last Week. I have never yet had an Opportunity of trying the Turpeth upon any thing which had the Symptoms of Madnefs: When one of that Kind offers, I shall communicate the Effect of it in that Case.

*I am, Sir,*

*your most obedient humble Servant,*

THO. TOUNDROW.

S I R,

MY Master being obliged to go from home, ordered me to give you an Account of the People to whom he hath given the Turpeth Mineral. One of them was *Ann Bagnell* of *Branston*: The other was a Boy of *John Cowper's*,



*Cowper's* of *Stephen-Hill* in the County of *Derby*; and they remain quite free from the least Symptoms of a *Mania*. He never gave it to any other Animals but Dogs. We have daily Instances of the good Success this Operation hath with them. There were several which were bit the other Day: Those which we gave the Medicine to, stand secure, and the rest are quite gone mad. He sent it to a Person who had two Horses bit; but they finding no Wound, did not give it them. If you please, my Master perhaps will give you a more intelligible Account the next Post. I beg leave to subscribe myself,

*Sir, you most obedient*

*humble Servant,*

*Burton, May 19 1735.*

WILL. COTTON.

SIR,

THE Youth that was bit, was about eighteen Years of Age: It was the sixth Day before he came to me; he had little Sleep from the Time he was bit, was very low-spirited, attended with Tremors. I immediately gave him as follows:

R Vin. Benedict. ʒij.

Turpeth Mineral Gr. xij. Lap. Contrayerv. ʒj.

Ther. Androm. q. f. F. Bol. No. 3.

R Aq. Rutæ ʒvj. Ther. ʒij. Elix. Camph. Gut. 50.

Syr. Pæon. c. ʒiss. Tinct. Castor. ʒij.



I afterwards cold bathed him for five Mornings. The Bite was on the Back of the Hand: It was when he came to me of a dry Scab: The fourth Day after Bathing the Wound run a thick digested Matter, which flung off the Scab like an Eschar. The Youth was a Servant to Mr. *Vernon* of *Austry*. The Cure has been much spread abroad: Two of my Business have been very busy to know what it was I gave him.

*I am, Sir,*

*Your most obedient Servant,*

*Tamworth, April 9. 1735.*

R. WILSON.

*P. S.* The Vomit brought a large Quantity of slimy Matter up; also gave three loose Stools. He sweat much that Night. He took every Night afterwards one of the Bolusses, and four Spoonfuls of the Julep, which made him sweat very much: His Spirits were much better: He had two loose Stools every Day. Three Days after he had finished the Bolusses, he began to bathe, which he thought gave him fresh Life. He took, as long as the Julep held out, four Spoonfuls at Bed-time: He slept better than usual. I order'd him to abstain from salt Meat and spirituous Liquors, but to live on Puddings, and such-like Diet, for a Month. He is perfectly recover'd, and continues very well. The Misfortune happen'd in *December*.

I HAVE been concerned myself in a great many Cases, which abundantly confirm the good Effects of Mercury,  
both



both as a Preservative, and a Cure, among which the two following seem remarkable.

About thirteen Months ago, a Neighbour's Dog came into my House, and very much worried a middle-sized Spaniel Bitch, which I have now with me, making many Wounds in several Parts of her. Immediately before and after, he worried several other Dogs in the Neighbourhood. As he was a Dog of Value, his Master's Servants caught him and chained him up. The next Morning, upon a full Conviction of his being mad, he was shot. My Spaniel had immediately all his Wounds dressed with a mercurial Ointment, and took every Day, for a Fortnight, Turpeth Mineral in small Doses, by Way of Alterative. After that I had her dipt every Day over Head in cold Water. She is now alive.

As some of the other Dogs were much valued, the Pewter Medicine was given them, and other Things commonly prescribed on this Occasion; but in about a Fortnight they most of them ran mad, and the rest were shot or hanged, to prevent further Mischief.

The other Case is that of a young Lady, about five Years old, in *Warwickshire*. A large *Irish* Wolf Dog, about two Years ago, running mad, met her in a Passage, threw her upon her Face, and stood over her, endeavouring to worry her, till the Servants came and released her. Very fortunately he had a Garland fastened to a Collar about his Neck, which probably hindred him from killing her. A Garland is a Thing well known to the Sportsmen,

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consisting



consisting of two Hoops crossing each other, and which hanging before a Dog's Fore Legs, prevents him from running after Sheep, or being otherwise mischievous. The Dog was immediately tied up in a Stable, and a Messenger dispatched to me. As I was twelve Miles from the Gentleman's House, it was six or eight Hours before I could come. When I arrived, I found the Dog raging mad, and he was immediately after shot to prevent Mischief. I was informed the young Lady's Cap had been pulled off, her Hair very much disordered, and saw some Scratches on the Head, which however might be from some other Cause. I directed for her Turpeth Mineral in small Quantities, loaded with Camphire, which disordering her very much, I was obliged to change it for some Pills made with crude Mercury, divided with Turpentine and Pil. Ruff. After this she made Use of the Cold-Bath for some Time, and continues perfectly well.

About three Years ago, Mr. *John Douglas*, Surgeon in *Downing-Street*, a Gentleman well known to the learned World for some laudable Attempts to improve his Profession, sent me a Letter, and in it enclosed a printed Half-Sheet, containing Instructions for the Prevention and Cure of the Hydrophobia. In this Paper he quotes *Desault*, an Author whom I at that Time had never seen nor heard of. I therefore requested Mr. *Douglas* to send me the Author, which he was so obliging as to do, some few Months after.

As the Method which *Desault* proposes, and the Cases which he gives, strongly confirm the Efficacy of Mercury, it will be useful to transcribe a Part of what he says upon  
this



this Subject, omitting his Theory, and whatever else may seem as little material.

“ \* When a Person comes to me immediately after the  
 “ Bite of a mad Creature, I send him to bathe in the Sea,  
 “ altho’ I have no Dependance upon its Efficacy, on  
 “ Account of the sad Examples we have seen of it this  
 “ Year, as was said above. Nevertheless as it is authorized  
 “ by the Opinion of the Publick, to omit it would be  
 “ flying in the Face of a general Prejudice; and it is at  
 “ least of some Advantage, so far as it calms a little the  
 “ Patient’s Mind, who measures his Confidence by the  
 “ great Number of Medicines he uses to secure himself,  
 “ and the Bath abates in some Degree the great Fear  
 “ which worries him Day and Night. I have observed  
 “ their Apprehension increases as they come nearer the  
 “ 40th Day; like those Lawyers who never fear the Event  
 “ of their Cause but in Proportion as they draw near the  
 “ Day of Sentence.

“ Secondly, immediately after his Return, I make him  
 “ take *Palmarius’s* Powder, to which I have added the *Co-*  
 “ *rallina*, an excellent Authelmintic. We should be guilty  
 “ of Ingratitude to our Predecessors in Physick, if we neg-  
 “ lected those Remedies which they have transmitted to  
 “ Posterity; and if the Notions which I propose are just  
 “ and true, we are much obliged to the Antients for them;  
 “ since they are only Consequences drawn from their Ob-  
 “ servations, and the Success of their Medicines, and this

\* This Quotation from *Desault* is transcribed from the *English* Translation.

“ which



“ which I propose has occurred to me from the Analogy  
 “ of their Precepts and Doctrine.

“ I therefore order one Dram of *Palmarius's* Powder in  
 “ white Wine every Morning, and Persons of the fair Sex,  
 “ who cannot bear Wine, take it in a Draught of warm Water.

“ In this Method I continue 30 Days with those who  
 “ have been bit in an uncovered Place, or have received  
 “ some considerable Wound by the Bite; but to those who  
 “ have been bit in a Place that was covered, and had  
 “ only a few Holes made with the Teeth, I give the Powder  
 “ 20 Days.

“ Thirdly, from the first Day of using the Powder, I  
 “ make them administer a Friction of one or two Drams  
 “ of Ointment upon the Wound and neighbouring Parts,  
 “ and spread the Ointment all over the Part that was  
 “ wounded.

“ The Remedy which I have tried with constant Suc-  
 “ cess, and which I propose to prevent, and cure the Hy-  
 “ drophobia, is the *Neapolitan* Ointment, made of one  
 “ third Part of Mercury revived from Cinnabar, one third  
 “ Part of human Fat, and as much of Hogs Lard.

“ This Ointment should be rubbed upon the Wound,  
 “ and round about, one or two Drams at a Time, by In-  
 “ tervals, or successively, as may be seen more at large  
 “ from the Observations at the End of this Dissertation.

“ I think I am the first who made this Trial, and have  
 “ no Reason to repent it, since all those who have fol-  
 “ lowed this Process have been preserved from the Hy-  
 “ drophobia. “ The



“ The Friction is repeated every other Day in the Be-  
 “ ginning ; and after the third Time every third Day ;  
 “ after the sixth every fourth, till two or three Ounces of  
 “ Ointment have been used, the Quantity of which ought  
 “ to be proportioned to the Strength, Age, Temperament,  
 “ Sex, Bite, &c.

“ But when the Patient comes to me several Days after  
 “ the Bite, for Fear of Accident, to prevent the Rabies,  
 “ I order him to make the Frictions every Day four or five  
 “ Times, and to increase the Dose of the Powder; after-  
 “ wards I leave a Day or two between, to avoid a Salivation,  
 “ which might ensue from the daily Use of the Oint-  
 “ ment, tho’ applied only to a single Part.

“ I have often thought, that if the Mercury should oc-  
 “ casion some slight Ptyalism, in this Case it could not but  
 “ produce a good Effect ; for the Poison of the Rabies  
 “ sticks to the Saliva as above, and as Mercury naturally  
 “ tends towards the Mouth, as daily Experience evinces,  
 “ Is it to be doubted that the sovereign Antidote of so  
 “ many contagious Poisons should destroy also that of  
 “ the Hydrophobia, which it runs as it were like a Fer-  
 “ ret to attack in its Retrenchment ?

“ Fourthly, let the Patient apply all those trifling Reme-  
 “ dies he is advised to, as wearing of Amulets about his  
 “ Neck, &c. provided they do’nt weaken or destroy the  
 “ Virtue of my Powder, and Ointment. I infinitely ap-  
 “ prove Devotions and Vows, and I am of Opinion that  
 “ his Prayers, those of his Friends, and of devout and



“ pious Persons, procure a happy Success to the Remedies ;  
 “ these Means serve at least to quiet the Patient’s Mind, who  
 “ stands in great Need of it.

“ Fifthly, I let him keep to his usual Meals, forbidding  
 “ him all Excesses ; for Experience proves that they in-  
 “ crease all the other contagious Distempers. I let him  
 “ drink Wine with Moderation, which has a Virtue  
 “ of making People bold, and in this present Case it di-  
 “ minishes at least that terrible Fear which torments them  
 “ Night and Day. I take Care that they be not left alone,  
 “ and desire their Relations and Friends to keep them  
 “ Company, forbidding them to mention Madness to them,  
 “ or mad Creatures. I have even advised some to the  
 “ Concert in this Town, and they have owned to me that  
 “ Musick suspended, at least as long as it lasted, their Hor-  
 “ ror, and Sadness. But you may read a more circum-  
 “ stantial Account of this Method in the following Ob-  
 “ servations.

#### F I R S T C A S E.

“ **A** Gentlewoman of this City going to *Mendoc*, found  
 “ upon the Road a little stray Dog, which run this  
 “ Way and that Way, sitting afterwards down: His Tail was  
 “ between his Legs, and his Tongue hung out of his Mouth.  
 “ The Dog followed the Chariot she was in with Part of  
 “ her Family. As soon as he saw some Shepherds Dogs,  
 “ he pursued them, and made them run away, altho’  
 “ much bigger than himself ; moreover he run into every  
 “ House upon the Road, and set upon the Dogs, strong or  
 “ weak,



“ weak, with a Superiority of Courage and Strength, which  
 “ pleased the Lady, who thought she had been lucky  
 “ in finding a good House Dog. Her Cowherd came  
 “ down to catch him, presenting him a Piece of Meat, he  
 “ had left of his Breakfast. The Dog refuses it, but bites  
 “ him in the Hand. He then judged him to be mad,  
 “ told his Lady of it, and wanted to kill him. She, who,  
 “ among many other fine Qualifications, is of a humane  
 “ Disposition, opposed the Cowherd’s Cruelty, and ordered  
 “ him to let him follow her. The Dog was hardly come  
 “ into the House but he bit one of her Children, and at  
 “ that Instant herself also in the Hand above the little  
 “ Finger, and held so fast, that notwithstanding she en-  
 “ deavoured to get loose her Hand, lifting the Dog up  
 “ from the Ground, and shaking him with all her Might,  
 “ and altho’ they struck him with great Sticks, he did not  
 “ quit his Hold till the whole Part he had seized was tore  
 “ with his Teeth, which made a considerable Wound in  
 “ her Hand.

“ They found too late that the Dog was mad, and then  
 “ he was killed.

“ The Lady went to the Sea, altho’ the Weather was  
 “ pretty cold. After she had bathed, she eat the Pancake  
 “ in which they had put calcined Oyfter Shells ; but her  
 “ Mind was not easy. Terrified by the fatal and frequent  
 “ Examples which were before her Eyes in her Country,  
 “ she affects Solitude, her Sleep is interrupted by terrible  
 “ Dreams, and her Mind is filled with unusual Ideas, and  
 her



“ her Fear went so far as to think herself upon the Brink  
 “ of Madness. She often asked for Water, to try whether she  
 “ had any Abhorrence of it.

“ I was sent for to visit her at *Mendoc* : Altho’ it was  
 “ several Days after she had been bit, the Wound was not  
 “ cicatrized, but appeared of a livid Colour.

“ I began with clearing up her Mind as much as possible :  
 “ I represented to her the Infallibility of my  
 “ Method, the Certainty of my Experiments, and that  
 “ they never had been followed by any bad Consequences.

“ I made her take *Palmarius’s* Powder, and rub the Wound  
 “ and the Hand every Day with half a Dram of Ointment.  
 “ I persuaded her to go abroad, to see Company at home,  
 “ and elsewhere, and to go to the Concert in this City :  
 “ By this Means she is perfectly recovered of her Fright,  
 “ secured from the Distemper, and enjoys a good State of Health.

## S E C O N D C A S E.

“ **A** MAD Wolf went and attacked before Day two Dogs  
 “ of one *Pey Dumenien* of the Parish of *Sousans* at  
 “ *Mendoc*, the Farm belonging to *M. de Latour Demons*.  
 “ He begins with killing the Dog which was able to make  
 “ the greatest Resistance. The Bitch was afterwards  
 “ most cruelly tore and almost killed. This Scene did  
 “ not pass without a great deal of Noise on the  
 “ Part of the Dogs. *Pey Dumenien* awakes, opens his  
 “ Door in his Shirt, and runs to help his Dogs : The Wolf  
 jumps



“ jumps upon him, and bites him in both his Hands, and  
 “ his Arm. His Son, called *Confiot*, also gets up in his  
 “ Shirt, and runs to help his Father, with a Rake in his  
 “ Hand. The Wolf lets go his Hold, and falls upon the  
 “ Son, whom he bites severely in the Arm ; the Father  
 “ in his Turn, although wounded, comes to succour his Son.  
 “ The Wolf runs away, and meets a Neighbour who was  
 “ got up, named *Jean Guirard* ; the Wolf also bites him in  
 “ his Arm ; making three or four considerable Wounds,  
 “ besides several little ones. This last Man seized the  
 “ Wolf by one of his Hind Legs, and made him quit his  
 “ Hold. The Animal continues his Tour, and meets  
 “ with a Shepherd of *Mons Brethonneau*, called *Criq* ;  
 “ whom he bites. At last the Wolf was killed.

“ Here are four Men bit by the same Wolf, the same  
 “ Day, and the same Hour ; they all four go to the Sea,  
 “ to bathe, and come back pretty well assured of their  
 “ Cure.

“ Some Days after *Pey Duminieu* feels a numbed Pain  
 “ about his Scars, which grew hard, and rose like Imbroide-  
 “ ry. He was very much affrighted ; they comfort him, attri-  
 “ buting it to the great Cold of the Winter 1731. How-  
 “ ever, a little while after he is seized with all the Symp-  
 “ toms of Madness, as well as *Criq* ; they both died mad.

“ Domestick Examples strike and intimidate commonly  
 “ more than distant ones. *Confiot Dumenieu* having seen  
 “ his Father perish, expects the same Fate, the rather  
 “ since he begins to perceive Pain in his Cicatrices, and



“ a Swelling with Hardness. *Jean Guirard*, his Compa-  
 “ nion, is in the same Case: *Monfieur Fontard*, Mer-  
 “ chant of *Castlenau*, a very honest Man, and my parti-  
 “ cular Friend, sends them to me without Delay. I ex-  
 “ amined their Cicatrices, and wonder’d that the Wolf’s  
 “ Teeth could have made such large Wounds. The Parts  
 “ where hard and swelled, and I doubted not but Madness  
 “ was near at hand, if some Remedy was not applied im-  
 “ mediately; the other two unfortunate Persons having  
 “ died one or two Days before.

“ I made them presently rub in one Dram and a half  
 “ of mercurial Ointment, which I made them spread upon  
 “ the Cicatrices, and about the whole Arm, which was  
 “ repeated three Days successively. I thought the Case  
 “ too pressing to allow of any Interval. After the three first  
 “ Days, I made them rub themselves every other Day; and  
 “ after the fifth Friction, I left two Days Interval; how-  
 “ ever, they took every Day a Dram and an half of *Pal-*  
 “ *marius’s* Powder.

“ These two Patients were perfectly cured, and returned  
 “ to the Plough. I had the Pleasure of seeing, after the  
 “ third Friction, the Cicatrices grow flat and soft; the Pain  
 “ went off, their Spirits returned, and their Minds re-  
 “ sumed their natural Tranquility, in proportion as  
 “ they perceived the Accidents disappear which had  
 “ terrified them.

“ Can you wish for a more distinct Case to prove the Effi-  
 “ cacy of Mercury to preserve Persons from Madness, than  
 “ this



“ this which I have here related ? Four Men are bit the  
 “ same Day, the same Hour, by the same Animal ; two  
 “ of them die of Madness, the two others perceived the  
 “ Symptoms which foreboded Madness to the others ; but  
 “ Mercury secures them, assisted by *Palmarius's* Powder.  
 “ If I had only this Observation, it would deserve the  
 “ Attention of a Practitioner.”

PALMARIUS'S Remedy is as follows, according to DESAULT.

T A K E of the Leaves of Rue, Vervain, Tea Sage, Plantain, Polypody, common Wormwood, Mint, Melisso-phylon, Betony, St. *John's* Wort, lesser Centaury, each equal Parts ; let them be all powdered and mixed ; the Dose is about a Dram.

As I believe there is no real Virtue in this Composition, and that the whole Merit of the Cure is due to Mercury, I do not know that it is worth while to mention that *Sennertus* directs this Remedy somewhat differently from *Desault*, both in regard to the Ingredients, and Dose.

I must not omit the History, so far as I could inform myself, of a Medicine which I hear has been successfully used, both as a Preservative from the *Hydrophobia*, and Cure of it, and which seems very strongly to prove the great Efficacy of Mercury in this Distemper.

Mr. *Cobb* of *Busselton*, near *Bristol*, a Gentleman formerly in the Service of the *East-India* Company, brought  
 from



from *Tonquin* two sorts of red Powder, which are much celebrated in that Country as efficacious in this Distemper. Upon Examination, these two Powders proved native and factitious Cinnabar, and, according to the best Information I can get, Lady *Frederick* brought the same Remedy from the same Place. The Prescription is as follows :

Take of native and factitious Cinnabar each 24 Gr. Musk 16 Gr. Let them be powdered and mixed well together.\*

This Powder is to be taken all at once in a Tea Cup full of Arrack, and is said to secure the Patient for 30 Days ; after which Time the Dose is to be repeated in the same Manner, but it should be done as soon as possible after the Bite is received.

But if the Patient has any Symptoms of the Disease upon him, the second Dose must be repeated three Hours after the first, and this is said to be sufficient for a Cure.

Mr. *Cobb* communicated this to Mr. *Roberts* an Apothecary in *Pall-Mall*, who published the Receipt in some of the daily Papers, and I hear Sir *Benjamin Wrench* of *Norwich* has made some Experiments with it successfully, as well as many others.

\* The Original Receipt was given me by another Hand in this Form : Take 2 Candarines of the best Musk, 5 Candarines of native Cinnabar, 5 Candarines of Vermillion. Grind them fine, and mix them in a Cup of strong Arrack or Brandy. A Candarine of *China* is the 72d Part of a *French* Crown, or Dollar, and the 80th Part of an *English* Crown, so that one Physical Ounce is rather more than 76 Candarines. This I thought proper to insert, though not exactly agreeable to Mr. *Cobb's* Receipt.



Factitious Cinnabar is made of three Parts Mercury, to one of Sulphur, and, as I remember, native Cinnabar has in it near the same Proportion of Mercury, and therefore it seems that the good Effects of this Medicine ought to be principally, if not entirely, ascribed to Mercury. As to the Musk, it is an animal Substance, and consequently of an Alcaline Nature; and as Alcalies have in all Ages been recommended in this Case, it seems to be at least not prejudicial, excepting in the Largeness of the Dose when taken in this Climate, by People much less used to Perfumes than the Orientals, who probably gave Musk with the Cinnabar, in order to make the Medicine more agreeable.

Hitherto I have only related Facts; I must now beg leave to make a few Observations upon this Distemper.

First then, the Disease seems to be, as it were, inoculated by the Bite into the Animal who receives it; for it is remarkable that the Wound whereby the Poison is received grows sore and festers some little before, or about the Time the Distemper begins to appear. Something very like this happens in the Inoculation of the Small Pox; for the Incisions where the variolous Matter had been introduced, begin to grow sore and painful about the fourth or fifth Day, that is, about the Time that the Distemper begins to shew itself? It is further remarkable, that when the Inoculation does not take Effect, the Incisions heal up in a few Days like a common Cut, and I have some Reasons to believe we may form a Judgment, with some Degree of Certainty, of the Danger a Patient is in from the



Bite, by observing the Wound ; for whilst that remains with a Scab upon it, I look upon him to be in great Danger ; but when it once is cicatrized, I am in no great Pain for the Consequences. However I would not pretend to establish this as a certain Maxim, but should rather recommend it as worthy Observation, to Physicians who shall hereafter be concerned in such Cases.

It is a great Error, to think that every Body bit by a mad Dog must necessarily go mad ; I have known some Instances to the contrary, when nothing had been applied by way of Prevention. I remember a young Man, that was bit three Times by Dogs which were certainly mad, at the Distance of some Years betwixt each Bite ; and though he could never be prevailed upon to take any Precautions, he never went mad. But in him the Wounds cicatrized as if they had been made by a Dog that was not mad. But these Instances are so rare, that they are not to be depended on.

The Symptoms of Madness in Men are too well known to want a Description: But from what I have been able to learn, I am persuaded that the Barking like a Dog, commonly mentioned as a Symptom attending the *Hydrophobia*, is, at least generally, imaginary ; that Circumstance being only in a greater Degree what happens in an ordinary Quinsy, when the Parts above the Larynx are inflamed, which necessarily must alter the Tone of the Voice considerably ; and it is remarkable



markable that the first sure Sign of a Dog's being actually mad, is an Alteration in his Bark.

But I must mention another certain Sign of approaching Madness in Dogs, because I don't find that 'tis generally known : It is that all other Dogs will by a natural Instinct run away from, and avoid a Dog that is going mad, with Signs of great Terror and Consternation. And of this I have seen frequent Instances.

The Difficulty of giving the mad Dog a Dose of Turpeth Mineral, I find, has been objected by some as an insuperable Obstacle to the Method of Cure I recommend ; but there is nothing more easy. Two Pair of Douples, or one Collar with two Pair of Chains to it, will readily fix a Dog's Head in such a Position, as to make it impossible for him to turn and bite ; then compressing the Skin of his Neck, with one Hand, to make him open his Mouth, a Ball fixed to the End of a thin Hazle Stick, or Whalebone, is thrust down his Throat without any Difficulty.

That Distemper which in Dogs and other Animals is called Madness, I look upon to be nothing more than a Fever, to which Carnivorous Brutes are peculiarly subject, and of which the *Hydrophobia* is a Symptom. Now when this Distemper is inoculated into any other Animals, it not appear to me wonderful that the same Symptoms should appear in the Animals it is inoculated into, as in the Animal it was inoculated from.

I have known several Farmers in the Country almost ruined by a Distemper amongst their Horses, which they call,



call, I am afraid sometimes improperly, the Staggers, and which seldom seizes one Horse, without infecting many others in the same Stable. By comparing the Symptoms of this Disease, with the Account *Vegetius* gives of the *Hydrophobia* in Cattle, I am inclined to believe that many Horses said to have the Staggers, have in reality been bit by a mad Dog: The Symptoms, according to *Vegetius*, are a great Distension of all the Veins, Inflammation of the Eyes, Sweats, Tremors, Grinding of the Teeth, Beating themselves against the Wall, and soon after direct Madness. And these are exactly the same with those I have known attend the Staggers.

I mention this, because I would advise every body, that has a Horse seized in this Manner, to keep him separate from all others, and to give all that have been near him some Doses of Turpeth Mineral, in Quantities proportional to the Size of the Horse, and afterwards to make them swim every Day in cold Water.

That I may omit nothing which may contribute to set the Efficacy of Mercury against this Sort of Madness in its true Light, I must confess I heard it was made use of once, last Year, without any Success; but then it was used in such a Manner, that none could be expected from it. Soon after this happened I waited on Mr. *Floyer*, the Gentleman who first tried the Experiment upon his own Hounds, and desired the Favour of him to enquire particularly into the Management of those Hounds, that had taken the Medicine with-



out Succes; and was informed by him, that a great Number of Hounds had ran mad in the Gentleman's Kennel, and had probably bit every Dog in it; that the Servants being afraid to come near the Dogs, to give them the Medicine properly, threw a great Number of Balls made with Turpeth Mineral and Butter into the Kennel; by which Means some got more than their Share, and others none; so that those which got none went mad, and bit the others again. He added, that he had not the worse Opinion of the Medicine for this Tryal, having never known it to fail in a Multitude of Experiments which he himself had made with it.

It remains that I now give the precise Method, which I would make use of, if I should be called to a Person bitten by a mad Dog.

First, I would rub into the Place wounded, as soon as possible, a Dram of the Ointment recommended by *Default*. I would then give Turpeth Mineral, by way of Vomit, in a Dose proportioned to the Age and Constitution of the Patient; and this I would repeat more than once at Intervals, which would secure it from raising a Salivation, always remembering to rub the Wound once in a Day, or oftner, with the Mercurial Ointment. In the mean Time I would not omit the *Pulvis Antilyssus*, consisting of Ash-coloured Liverwort and Pepper, recommended by Dr. *Mead*; whose great Humanity and Benevolence to Mankind, would not suffer him to give any Medicine a Character, that he had not the strongest Reasons

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sons to think it deserved. Nor should I omit to direct Cinnabar and Musk, in the Manner mentioned above.

The Method advised by Dr. *Mead* is this: Bleed the Patient to 9 or 10 Ounces. Take of the *Lichen Cinereus terrestris*,  $\text{z}\text{iv}$ . Black-Pepper powder'd,  $\text{z}\text{ij}$ . Divide these when mixed into four equal Parts, and let one of them be taken every Morning.

Then let the Patient go into cold Water every Morning, for a Month. But when through Neglect, any Symptoms of approaching Madness should appear, I would increase the Quantity of mercurial Ointment, and give Mercury in some Form or other internally, in as large Doses, and those as often repeated, as could be done, without hazarding the Patient by a Salivation too precipitate. In both Cases I would recommend the Cold Bath, as a Thing of great Consequence, as soon as ever the Patient can make use of it without Danger. But in this Case, as in all others, many accidental Circumstances will occur, for which it is impossible to lay down universal Rules: It must therefore be left to the Prudence of a Physician to guard against, and remedy Inconveniencies arising from particular Accidents.

Dartmouth-Street.

Dec. 4. 1740.

F I N I S.